



[HOME](#) [ABOUT RANDY](#) [SERVING YOU](#) [NEWSROOM](#) [OUR DISTRICT](#) [CONTACT](#)



In this issue of the Hultgren Huddle:

- [#CaseClosed: Resolving Adoption and Citizenship Issues](#)
- [Transportation Roundtable](#)
- [2017 Art Competition Winner Announced](#)
- [My Take on...](#)
- [...the \\$1 Trillion Spending Bill](#)
- [...the Health Care Vote](#)
- [...the Well-Attended Public Q and A](#)
- [Financial CHOICE Act to Promote Economic Growth and Hold Both Wall Street and Washington Accountable](#)
- [Legislative Update](#)
- [Holding Russia Accountable](#)
- [Talking Trafficking and Service Academies with High School Students](#)
- [STEM Scholars Take Simulated Flight at DeKalb Airport](#)
- [Honoring Coach Don Davidson's 50 Years](#)
- [Randy in the News](#)

## [#CaseClosed: Resolving Adoption and Citizenship Issues](#)



(Rep. Hultgren with Donna Wagner and her daughter, Miriam)

Donna Wagner of Cortland and her husband adopted four kids from Haiti. Their youngest adopted child, Miriam, arrived in 2005 on a medical visa due to many unattended medical issues. Since then, Mrs. Wagner has been faced with numerous complications acquiring citizenship for her daughter, and because of this Miriam was unable to receive Medicaid to assist with her health issues.

My office was able to resolve the adoption and citizenship issues, and Miriam is on her way to becoming a citizen. #CaseClosed

## Transportation Roundtable

How we get from point A to point B safely and efficiently is on our minds every day in Illinois. At our roundtable with the McHenry County Council of Governments, we tackled pressing issues like securing funding for critical infrastructure improvements, like the Route 47 and 31 expansions. These projects are not only a critical element of economic development but have a significant impact on public safety as both arterial roadways feed the two main hospitals in the county.

Given the talks swirling around a potential infrastructure package, we want to make sure Illinois is well-situated for federal resources.



(Rep. Hultgren attends McHenry transportation roundtable)

A key financing tool for local communities to rebuild and repair their roads, bridges, schools and hospitals are municipal bonds. Rep. Dutch Ruppersberger (D-MD) and I wrote a piece for Governing Magazine on the importance of protecting this bipartisan tool. [Click here to read.](#)

## 2017 Art Competition Winner Announced



(Rep. Hultgren with winner Luke Holwerda)

This year's Congressional Art Competition participants didn't disappoint—their talent was on full display at our reception at Aurora Christian

High School. I congratulate Luke (1st) of Wheaton Academy, Ashley (2nd) and Jennifer (3rd) of Oswego High School, and all 41 participants.

View the [photo gallery of submissions and the reception by clicking here](#).

## My Take on...

### ...the \$1 Trillion Spending Bill

I opposed House passage of H.R. 244, the FY2017 Consolidated Appropriations Act, a \$1.1 trillion bill to fund the government through September. I could not in good conscience vote for this massive spending bill with little reforms or reductions to the spending of taxpayer dollars. It did nothing to reverse the growth of our national debt now nearing \$20 trillion.

Another continuing resolution moves us farther from regular order and the path of meaningful debt reduction. It doesn't follow through on the promises we made to Americans calling for a change in direction. Our constituents, our kids and our grandkids deserve better.

### ...the Health Care Vote

I supported House passage of the American Health Care Act (H.R. 1682) because I believe maintaining the status quo under a failing law is simply unacceptable. [Click here to read my full statement](#).

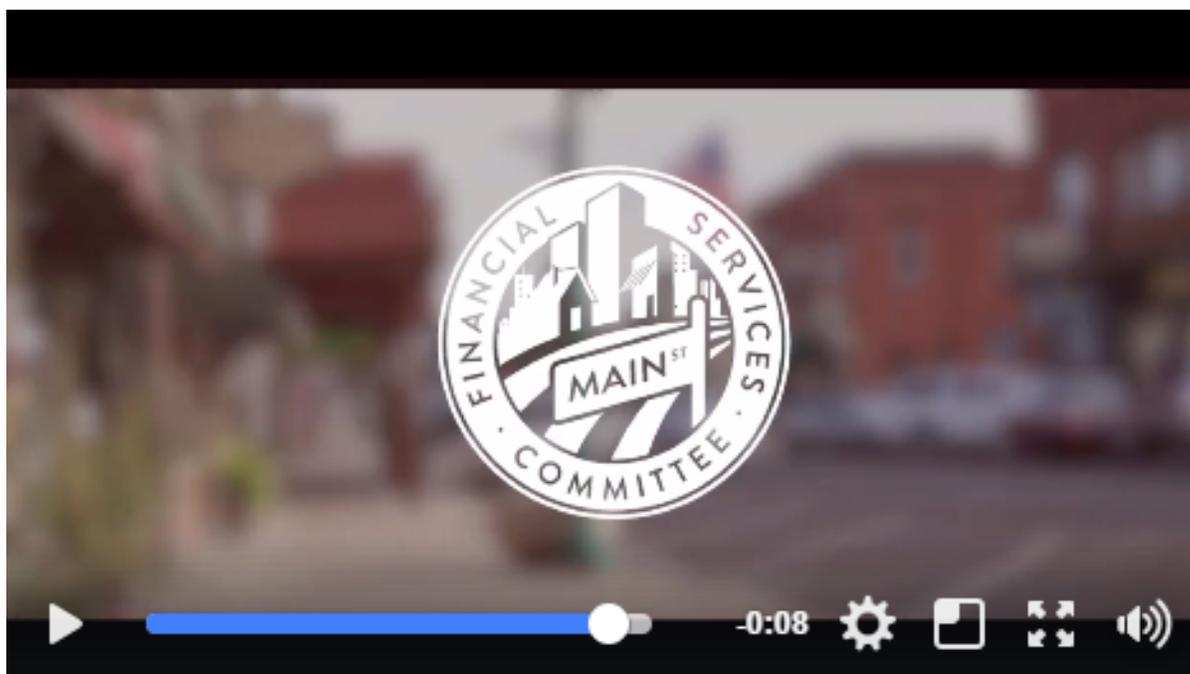
### ...the Well-Attended Public Q and A

On April 18 I participated in a public question-and-answer session in St. Charles hosted by the League of Women Voters. I announced my participation through Facebook, Twitter and this e-newsletter the Hultgren Huddle, and the event was attended by more than 600 constituents. You can read about it in the *Randy in the News* section below my signature.

As I told attendees at the event, "Democracy is messy. It's give and take. We're not going to agree on 100 percent of things. But if we're willing to listen and learn, good things are going to happen."

## Financial CHOICE Act to Promote Economic

## Growth and Hold Both Wall Street and Washington Accountable



(Click to watch video)

Following the 2008 financial crisis, Washington legislators rushed to pass a bill—the Dodd-Frank Act—that established an unworkable system of measuring risk and guarding against loss. Today credit is tighter, consumers are less secure, the root causes of the crisis have been left untouched, the big banks are bigger and the small banks are fewer. My own constituents—individuals and businesses alike—have been the collateral damage of these failed policies.

I supported passage of the Financial CHOICE Act in committee because it ends the bailouts, promotes more savings and options for consumers and creates a more level playing field for job creators. The bill allows financial institutions to provide hard-working Americans the financial services and access to credit they deserve, while increasing penalties and accountability for bad actors. I look forward to moving this legislation through the full House.

### Legislative Update

- The Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB) is proposing to expose my constituents' sensitive information, such as credit scores, on an obscure page of a government website. This is far from consumer protection, which is why I have reintroduced [H.R. 2204, the Homeowner Information Privacy Protection Act](#). The legislation would require a study regarding the impact on consumer

privacy resulting from information made publicly available under the Home Mortgage Disclosure Act (HMDA).

- States—not the federal government—should decide where family planning funding should go to best serve the needs of their population. The more than 650 federally qualified health centers in Illinois are uniquely positioned to provide comprehensive health care, especially to women and children. I am pleased the President signed legislation passed by Congress, [H.J.Res. 43](#), to reverse a last-minute rule implemented in the final days of the previous administration.
- It can be difficult for rural Illinoisans to open up a bank account if they live far from a brick-and-mortar branch. I cosponsored the [Making Online Banking Initiation Legal and Easy \(MOBILE\) Act of 2017 \(H.R. 1457\)](#), which helps consumers send in a photo of their state ID for verification, while ensuring fraud protection.
- Forcing vulnerable children to pick up guns, to kill and to die for others is the most heinous of human rights abuses, and governments must be held accountable. I support bipartisan legislation, the [Child Soldier Prevention Act of 2017 \(H.R. 1191\)](#), to pressure countries against the recruitment and use of child soldiers. At the Tom Lantos Human Rights Commission we [recently hosted Lieutenant-General Roméo Dallaire and other experts](#) to examine the United States' record and explore ways to improve and deepen U.S. efforts to end the recruitment and use of children as soldiers.
- Religious freedom is a fundamental right enshrined in the American Constitution and universally recognized around the globe. But numerous reports confirm rising attacks, restrictions and harassment on religious minorities of many faiths by state and non-state actors alike. I introduced [House Resolution 319](#) to urge the Administration to take up a series of recommendations with speed. New technologies, new laws and new research are on the side of the persecuted and abused. It's up to the United States to stand up and reaffirm its leadership and commitment to vulnerable populations around the globe.

## Holding Russia Accountable

Russia's overt external aggression against countries such as Ukraine, its support for the Assad regime in Syria, and its efforts to disrupt western democracies are made possible by the internal repression of its own people. The Helsinki Commission on which I sit examined Russia's human rights record. [Click here to learn what we found.](#)

## Talking Trafficking and Service Academies with High School Students

Fighting human trafficking here requires everyone to be on watch for suspicious activity—students, teachers, hotel workers, truck drivers, law enforcement and you. When up to 25,000 women and girls in Chicagoland are trafficked each year, we can't be complacent. I'm hugely encouraged by the drive and commitment of West Chicago Community High School students to get involved in this issue.



(Rep. Hultgren discusses trafficking with high school students)

We had a great turnout at our Service Academy Day at St. Charles East High School. Learn more about this [educational and career opportunity via my website here](#).



(Rep. Hultgren addresses students and parents at Service Academy Day)

## STEM Scholars Take Simulated Flight at DeKalb Airport



(A STEM Scholar practices on a flight simulator)

Recently, [the #STEMScholars and I experienced the Kishwaukee Education Consortium High School Aviation Program firsthand](#) at DeKalb Taylor Municipal Airport. The program is a model for getting high school students excited and engaged in the aviation careers.

We learned about aeronautics and the power of flight, new technologies in aviation and tackled their on-sight flight simulators. Several students that have graduated from this program have gone on to the air force academy or have become commercial pilots, air traffic controllers, aviation mechanics, airport managers or flight instructors.

[Click here to view the full gallery from our visit.](#)

## Honoring Coach Don Davidson's 50 Years



(Click picture to watch video)

In Your Service,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Randy Hultgren'.

*Randy Hultgren  
Member of Congress  
14th District, Illinois*

## Randy in the News

- [Cheers, jeers for Rep. Hultgren at forum: 'I think he heard from us tonight'](#) (Aurora Beacon News)
- [Dozens of lawmakers press Trump for religious freedom protection](#) (Catholic News Agency)
- [Hultgren draws jeers, cheers](#) (Daily Herald)
- [Hultgren fields questions from raucous crowd](#) (Kane County Chronicle)
- [Hultgren Opposes Federal Budget Bill Citing Little Reform or Spending Reductions](#) (Illinois Review)
- [Letter: Democracy in action](#) (Kane County Chronicle)
- [Local U.S. Reps. Hultgren, Roskam vote for the American Health Care Act](#) (Northwest Herald)
- [Op-ed: Congress, pass small business tax reform now](#) (The Hill)
- [Op-ed: The Growing Threat to Municipal Bonds](#) (Governing.com)

- [US lawmaker seeks visa restrictions against Chinese officials](#) (The Economic Times)
- [Winner chosen in art contest](#) (Aurora Beacon News)

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